

20 September 1977

Memorandum For The Record

Subject: Retroactive Pay to 18 June 1977 for GP/GA Employees

Reference: Two earlier memoranda for the record, same subject, of
12 August and 1 September 1977

1. Mr. Mac McGee from GPO "labor relations" called me today to advise that the Public Printer, GPO, has submitted an official request to the Comptroller General for a ruling on whether or not GPO has the authority to grant "retroactive pay". Past practice and interpretation at GPO has consistently been that retroactive pay was not permissible, with one exception when GPO wage increases, along with GS raises, were temporarily deferred for economy reasons during President Nixon's term of office. Although the Keiss Act gives the Public Printer authority for pay matters within GPO, that same type of authority is present in the heads of certain other Government agencies but has been interpreted not to include authority for granting retroactive pay unless specifically so stated in the congressional acts.

2. I notified the Agency components having GP/GA positions (OLog/P&PD, NPIC/Litho, OTS/GARB, OGCR, and also OFin/Comp & Tax Div) about the above and that I would inform them after GPO receives a decision from the Comptroller General.



Position Management Officer
OP/PMCD/PMCB

ST/

Committee

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F C P

McBee
GPO

9/20/77

Why hold off - question of
legality of retro pay

c/GPO Submitted to Comptroller General
past - consistent pay
authority it not permissible

have
public
info
that
asking
for
comp Gen
opinion

only past incident of granting retro pay was
when Nixon deferred payments ^{due to economy} then
illegal but then granted

but no clear-cut

interpretation by GPO

consistently held before - if Head of

pay director that authority not

also include retro pay subcommittee

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unless so specified in Act

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